

Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____

Introduced by: Bauer, Bosma

A RESOLUTION to honor Governor Joseph E. Kernan for his service to the State of Indiana and the Indiana House of Representatives.

Whereas, After the untimely death of Governor Frank L. O'Bannon, Lieutenant Governor Kernan was sworn in as Indiana's 48th Governor on September 13, 2003;

Whereas, Governor Kernan's service confirmed his commitment to Indiana's children and seniors, and other Hoosiers so often lost in today's rough and tumble world. In addition, Governor Kernan's commitment to diversity and inclusion was confirmed by his selection of Katherine Davis as the state's first female lieutenant governor, and David Lewis, an African-American, as the state's clerk of courts;

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Whereas, Before serving as governor, Governor Kernan was elected lieutenant governor in 1996 and again in 2000. As lieutenant governor, Governor Kernan served as president of the Indiana Senate, director of the Indiana Department of Commerce, commissioner of agriculture, and chair of the Indiana 21st Century Research and Technology Fund;

Whereas, As lieutenant governor in 1998, Governor Kernan organized and led the bipartisan Agricultural Crisis Working Group and the Insurance Industry Working Group. In 1999, he launched the Veterans Outreach Initiative, an effort to encourage veterans to make use of state and federal benefits they earned by serving our country. In addition, as Lieutenant Governor, Governor Kernan championed Indiana's 2002 comprehensive tax restructuring plan and the "Energize Indiana" job creation plan, encouraging investment in research and technology, rural development, workforce development, and intermodal transportation;

Whereas, Before his service as a statewide elected official, Governor Kernan, was elected mayor of South Bend in 1987, 1991, and 1995. Governor Kernan also served as South Bend city controller from 1981 to 1984; and

Whereas, Governor Kernan honorably served his country as a U.S. Naval flight officer during the Vietnam Conflict, and while serving his country was shot down by the enemy and held as a prisoner of war for nearly 11 months, his service earning him the Navy Commendation Medal, two Purple Hearts, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives, on behalf
2 of the citizens of the State of Indiana, expresses its appreciation and
3 affection for Governor Joe Kernan in recognition of his years of service
4 to this body and the people of the State of Indiana.

5 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
6 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to Governor
7 Kernan and his lovely wife, Maggie.

